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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/816,613	03/23/2001	Hajime Hosaka	112857-223	7172

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, ANTHONY H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2854

DATE MAILED: 09/29/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/816,613

Applicant(s)

HOSAKA ET AL.

Examiner

Anthony H Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 July 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 14-26 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 9, 10, 12 and 13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 7, 8 and 11 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) a patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 2, 6,9,12 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Deeds (US 6,202,257) in view of Miwa (US 5,626,428).

With respect to claims 1, 2 and 12, Deeds teaches a portable information terminal or a hand-held device 100 having a plurality of component faces which includes a component face 108a or 108b having a plurality of input keys 104 and an adjacent component face 116 which includes a display screen 102 (Deeds, Fig. 1A). Deeds fails to teach the second component face having two rows input keys arranged in a zigzag pattern. Miwa teaches a keyboard device having a display and at least two rows of multiple input keys arranged in a zigzag pattern as shown in Figs. 2, 3, 6, 7 and 9 of Miwa. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the hand-held device of Deeds by replacing the input keys of Deeds with the at least two rows input keys arranged in a zigzag pattern as taught by Miwa to improve the efficiency of entering data with one hand.

With respect to claim 6, Deeds teaches the third component face 118a which forms a gripping surface (Deeds, col. 2, lines 32-34).

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With respect to claim 9, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use the terminal of Deeds or Miwa with a left hand or a right hand with four fingers of each hand.

With respect to claim 13, Deeds teaches a connection port and a slot 122 for insertion to an external apparatus as shown in Fig. 1C.

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over as being unpatentable over Deeds in view of Miwa as applied to claims 1, 2, 6, 9, 12 and 13 above, and further in view of Matthews (US 5,432,510).

Deeds and Miwa teach all that is claimed, except the changeover port for changing over an allocation of input key on the second component. Matthews teaches a portable information terminal having a changeover port or thumb button 14 or 19 on a second component face for changing over an allocation on input keys or generating signal in a right-hand mode and a left-hand mode (Matthews, Fig. 1 and claim 7). In view of the teaching of Matthews, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the terminal of Deeds and Miwa by providing the changeover port as taught by Matthews for quickly operating the terminal in a right-hand mode or a left-hand mode.

Claims 3-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Deeds in view of Miwa as applied to claims 1, 2, 6, 9, 12 and 13 above, and further in view of Kline (US 4,565,460).

With respect to claims 4 and 5, Deeds and Miwa teach all that is claimed, except for the input keys arranged in a zigzag pattern on the component surface and having a projection formed on the top face of the key. Kline teaches a key 10 having a projection 22 on the surface 12 of the key as shown in Figs. 4a-6c. Therefore, in view of the teaching of Kline, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the hand-held device of Deeds and

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Miwa by providing a projection on the surface of the key as taught by Kline to improve the efficiency of entering data with one hand.

With respect to claim 3, note the Figs.6a-6c of Kline show a rib-like portion 24 and a projection 12 formed at a middle portion of the key.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 10 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Also, Applicant argues that Deeds and Miwa fail to teach the portable information terminal as recited in claims 2,6,9,12-14 and 18-21. Specifically, applicant argues that Deeds and Miwa do not teach or suggest the structure as amended in claim 14.

In response, claims 14-21 have been allowed.

However, as explained above, the combination of Deeds and Miwa renders obvious the structure as recited in claims 1,2,6,9, 12 and 13. Since applicant does not discuss the combination of Deeds and Miwa which respect to the rejection of claims 2,6,9,12 and 13, the rejection is believed proper.

The combination of Deeds, Miwa and Kline renders obvious the structure as recited in claims 3-5. Since applicant does not discuss the combination of Deeds, Miwa and Kline which respect to the rejection of claims 3-5, the rejections are believed proper.

Conclusion

Claims 14-26 are allowed.

Claims 7,8 and 11 are objected to.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action.

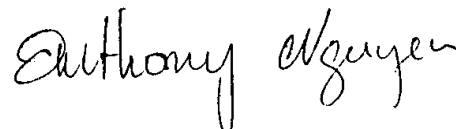
Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See M.P.E.P. § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE TO THIS FINAL ACTION IS SET TO EXPIRE THREE MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS ACTION. IN THE EVENT A FIRST RESPONSE IS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE MAILING DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION AND THE ADVISORY ACTION IS NOT MAILED UNTIL AFTER THE END OF THE THREE-MONTH SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD, THEN THE SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD WILL EXPIRE ON THE DATE THE ADVISORY ACTION IS MAILED, AND ANY EXTENSION FEE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) WILL BE CALCULATED FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THE ADVISORY ACTION. IN NO EVENT WILL THE STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE EXPIRE LATER THAN SIX MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anthony Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 308-2869. The examiner can normally be reached daily from 9 AM to 5PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Hirshfeld, can be reached on (703) 305-6619. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-7722.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anthony Nguyen".

Anthony Nguyen

9/25/03

Patent Examiner

Technology Center 2800